

a2
Cont

[Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:]

Furthermore, fuse boxes known in the art (e.g., see Figure 1) are designed to receive individual fuses that must be individually inserted into the fuse box. Because fuses are individually placed in the fuse box, the number of manufacturing steps increase, thereby also increasing the complexity of placing and connecting the fuses in the fuse box when multiple fuses are required.

a3

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In another embodiment of the invention, a fuse array is constructed with a planar insulating substrate having two planar sides. A metallization pattern is disposed on at least one side of the substrate and comprises at least one fuse element. A protective coating is disposed on the sides of the substrate and covers at least a first portion of the metallization. The construction of one or more fuses on a planar substrate affords modularity in the fuse design and allows for easier insertion and removal of fuses within a fuse block.

a4

[Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:]

In another embodiment of the invention, a packaging apparatus for vehicle fuses includes a carrier strip having at least one rail comprised of a flexible material. In addition, a plurality of fuse assemblies are integrally connected to the at least one rail and are also configured to be separable from the rail by an end user. The carrier strip is capable of being rolled to form a package for shipping to the end user. The use of a carrier strip having integral fuse assemblies and the capacity to be rolled-up for shipping reduces manufacturing steps and costs for the fuse manufacturer. Additionally, since the fuse assemblies are configured to be separable from the rails of the carrier strip by an end user, the ease with which the end user may place and connect fuses within a fuse box, for example, can be increased.

a5

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Referring now to the figures, Figure 3 is a sectional view of an exemplary fuse box arrangement according to the present invention. The fuse box, shown generally at 40, includes a base portion 42 and a cover 44. In the embodiment illustrated, within the base portion 42, is a wiring harness 52 having a plurality of terminals 53 that connect with fuses (i.e., fuses 48₁ – 48_n collectively referred to herein as fuses 48). The wiring harness 52 is connected to a plurality of conductors 56 that supply current to loads within a vehicle containing the fuse box 40.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a5

With both embodiments of Figures 10 and 11, the carrier strip includes indexing holes 108 and 130, respectively, that can be further used by the end user to delineate the location of the